

1. to 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication among a plurality of connected communication terminals, comprising:

connecting means for connecting a general-purpose terminal;

image generating means for generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

image distributing means for distributing the image data, which has been generated by said image generating means, to the general-purpose terminal via said connecting means;

voice recognition means for recognizing voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminals and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized voice data; and

data distributing means for distributing the text data, generated from the voice data by the voice recognition means, to the general-purpose terminal with image data, associated with the voice data, distributed by said image distributing means.

20. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said data distributing means distributes the text data in real-time.

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said data distributing means further distributes text data, which has entered from the general-purpose terminal, to the communication terminals.

22. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said voice recognition means generates text-chat data.

23. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein said general-purpose terminal has a data conferencing function based upon text-chat data.

24. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the communication terminals have a data conferencing function based upon text-chat data.

25. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 22, wherein the text-chat data is in compliance with ITU-T Recommendation T.120.

26. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said connecting means connects the general-purpose terminal by the Internet Protocol.

27. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said image generating means generates HTML-format hypertext data, including image data, based upon image data that has entered from the communication terminals.

28. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 27, wherein said image distributing means is an HTTP server.

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29. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said communication terminals are dedicated videoconferencing terminals in compliance with any of ITU-T Recommendations H.320, H.323 and H.324.

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30. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the data communication control apparatus is in compliance with ITU-T Recommendations H.231 and H.243.

31. (Currently Amended) A data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication among a plurality of connected communication terminals, comprising:

connecting means for connecting a general-purpose terminal;

image generating means for generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

image distributing means for distributing the image data, which has been generated by said image generating means, to the general-purpose terminal via said connecting means;

voice recognition means for recognizing first voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminals and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized first voice data;

data distributing means for distributing the text data, generated from the first voice data by said voice recognition means, to the general-purpose terminal with image data, associated with the first voice data, distributed by said image distributing means;

voice synthesizing means for synthesizing second voice data based upon text data that has entered to the data communication control apparatus from the general-purpose terminal; and

audio distributing means for distributing the second voice data synthesized by the voice synthesizing means to the communication terminals.

32. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the general-purpose terminal has a data conferencing function based upon text-chat data.

33. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 32, wherein the text-chat data is in compliance with ITU-T Recommendation T.120.

34. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 31, wherein said connecting means connects the general-purpose terminal by the Internet Protocol.

35. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 34, wherein said image generating means generates HTML-format hypertext data, including image data, based upon image data that has been entered from the communication terminals.

36. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said image distributing means is an HTTP server.

Am 37. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 19 31, wherein said communication terminals are dedicated videoconferencing terminals in compliance with any of ITU-T Recommendations H.320, H.323 and H.324.

38. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 37, wherein the data communication control apparatus is in compliance with ITU-T Recommendations H.231 and H.243.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A control method in a data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication between a connected communication terminal and general-purpose terminal, comprising:

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an image generating step of generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

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an image distributing step of distributing the image data, which has been generated at said image generating step, to the general-purpose terminal;

a voice recognition step of recognizing voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminal and generating text data based upon ~~this recognition~~ the recognized voice data; and

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a data distributing step of distributing the text data, generated from the voice data by said voice recognition step, to the general-purpose terminal with the image data associated with the voice data, distributed by said image distributing step.

41. (Currently Amended) A control method in a data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication between a connected communication terminal and general-purpose terminal, comprising:

an image generating step of generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

an image distributing step of distributing the image data, which has been generated at said image generating step, to the general-purpose terminal;

a voice recognition step of recognizing first voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminal and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized first voice data;

a data distributing step of distributing the text data, generated from the first voice data by said voice recognition step, to the general-purpose terminal with image data associated with the first voice data, distributed by said image distributing step;

a voice synthesizing step of synthesizing second voice data based upon text data that has been entered to the data communication apparatus from the general-purpose terminal; and

an audio distributing step of distributing the second voice data synthesized by the voice synthesizing step to the communication terminal.

42. (Canceled)

43. (Currently Amended) A data communication system in which a plurality of communication terminals are connected via a data communication control apparatus and data communication is performed among said plurality of communication terminals, wherein said data communication control apparatus comprises:

connecting means for connecting a general-purpose terminal;

image generating means for generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

image distributing means for distributing the image data, which has been generated by said image generating means, to the general-purpose terminal via said connecting means;

voice recognition means for recognizing voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminals and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized voice data; and

data distributing means for distributing the text data, generated from the voice data by said voice recognition means, to the general-purpose terminal with image data, associated with the voice data, distributed by said image distributing means.

44. (Currently Amended) A data communication system in which a plurality of communication terminals are connected via a data communication control apparatus and data communication is performed among said plurality of communication terminals, wherein said data communication control apparatus comprises:

connecting means for connecting a general-purpose terminal;

image generating means for generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

image distributing means for distributing the image data, which has been generated by said image generating means, to the general-purpose terminal via said connecting means;

93 voice recognition means for recognizing first voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminals and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized first voice data;

13 data distributing means for distributing the text data, generated from the first voice data by said voice recognition means, to the general-purpose terminal with image data, associated with the first voice data, distributed by said image distributing means;

voice synthesizing means for synthesizing second voice data based upon text data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the general-purpose terminal; and

audio distributing means for distributing the second voice data synthesized by the voice synthesizing means to the communication terminals.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which has been recorded program code of a control method in a data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication between a connected communication terminal and general-purpose terminal, said program code comprising at least:

Sub B1 } code of an image generating step of generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

code of an image distributing step of distributing the image data, which has been generated at said image generating step, to the general-purpose terminal;

code of a voice recognition step of recognizing voice data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminal and generating text data based upon this recognition the recognized voice data; and

144 } code of a data distributing step of distributing the text data, generated from the voice data by said voice recognition step, in real-time, with image data, associated with the voice data, distributed by said image distributing step.

47. (Currently Amended) A recording medium on which has been recorded program code of a control method in a data communication control apparatus for controlling data communication between a connected communication terminal and general-purpose terminal, said program code comprising at least:

code of an image generating step of generating image data that conforms to the general-purpose terminal;

code of an image distributing step of distributing the image data, which has been generated at said image generating step, to the general-purpose terminal;

code of a voice recognition step of recognizing first voice data that has been
entered to the data communication control apparatus from the communication terminal and
generating text data based upon ~~this recognition~~ the recognized first voice data;

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code of a data distributing step of distributing the text data, generated from
the voice data by said voice recognition step, to the general-purpose terminal with image
data, associated with the first voice data, distributed by said image distributing step;

code of a voice synthesizing step of synthesizing second voice data based
upon text data that has been entered to the data communication control apparatus from the
general-purpose terminal; and

code of an audio distributing step of distributing the second voice data
synthesized by the voice synthesizing step to the communication terminal.
